

## Message Text

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ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 H-01  
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-12  
IGA-02 EB-08 /072 W  
-----075004 200637Z /14/40

R 180822Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4428  
SECDEF WASHDC  
CINCPAC HONOLULU  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMCONSUL FUKUOKA  
COMUS J

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CORRECTED COPY (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MASS, JA, RP  
SUBJECT: STATUS OF PHILIPPINE SHIPS

REF: A) NAVORDFAC SASEBO 190626 Z DEC. 77 (NOTAL)  
B) 77 TOKYO 17976 AND PREVIOUS

1. SUMMARY: FOUR OF TEN FORMER MSTs LSTS AT SASEBO HAVE BEEN MOVED TO COMMERCIAL SHIPYARD FOR REPAIRS. AT GOP INITIATIVE EMBASSY HAS REQUESTED GOJ TO DELIVER TEN FORMER MAP LANDING CRAFT TO SAME SHIPYARD FOR ONWARD TRANSPORT TO PHILIPPINES. EMBASSY REQUESTS AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE RETURN OF OTHER FORMER MAP VESSELS ON BASIS OF PAST PRACTICE WITH PROVISION FOR COMPROMISE IN INTEREST OF EXPEDITIOUS EXPORT CLEARANCE. END SUMMARY.

2. THROUGH EFFORTS OF CONTRACTOR TOYA TSUSHO, EXPORT PERMIT FOR FORMER MSTs LSTS AT SASEBO WAS ISSUED BY  
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LOCAL CUSTOMS OFFICE THERE AND FOUR OF TOTAL TEN WERE MOVED TO COMMERCIAL SHIPYARDS FOR REPAIR DECEMBER 19. AFTER BEING RECEIVED BY GOP REPRESENTATIVE. (REF A).  
NOTE: LSTS ARE NOT FORMER MAP VESSELS AND WERE NEVER IN JAPANESE HANDS SO THEY ARE NOT INVOLVED IN QUESTION OF GOJ DELIVERY TO DESIGNATED PORTS OF VESSELS HELD BY MSDF. WHEN FONMIN BECAME AWARE OF TRANSFER EMBOFF WAS CALLED

IN BY SECOND SOUTHEAST ASIA DIVISION DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
KOBAYASHI WHO WISHED TO KNOW WHY US HAD RELEASED SHIPS  
PRIOR TO GOJ DECISION ON EXPORTABILITY. EMBOFF EXPLAINED  
THAT FACILITY COMMANDER, SASEBO, HAD NO OPTION BUT TO  
TURN OVER SHIPS TO AUTHORIZED GOP REPRESENTATIVE AND THAT  
THIS ACTION IN NO WAY PREJUDICED SUBSEQUENT GOJ DECISION  
ON THEIR EXPORT. KOBAYASHI ACCEPTED THIS POINT AND ADDED THAT  
LOCAL CUSTOMS OFFICE (PART OF FINANCE MINISTRY) WAS NOT AUTHOR-  
IZED TO ISSUE EXPORT LICENSES WITHOUT MITI CONCURRENCE BUT THAT  
THIS WAS INTERNAL GOJ PROBLEM. HE PROMISED TO KEEP EMBASSY  
INFORMED CONCERNING RESULTS OF MITI/FONMIN DISCUSSIONS ON  
EXPORT QUESTION WHICH WAS STILL BEING STAFFED IN MITI.  
NO INFORMATION HAS YET BEEN RECEIVED.

3. MEANWHILE, LOOKING TO FEBRUARY COMPLETION OF  
REPAIRS ON FIRST BATCH OF LSTS, GOP REP. APPROACHED  
EMBASSY (MDO) TO REQUEST THAT GOJ BE ASKED TO DELIVER  
TEN FORMER MAP LANDING CRAFT (LCMS) TO SASEBO SHIPYARD  
FOR LOADING ON LSTS FOR ONWARD TRANSPORT TO PHILIPPINES.  
AS SIX OF THESE CRAFT ARE AT MSDF BASE IN SASEBO AND  
FOUR AT NEARBY KURE, TRANSFER WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH PAST  
PRACTICE OF HAVING GOJ DELIVER FORMER MAP SHIPS TO SASEBO  
OR YOKOSUKA AT ITS CONVENIENCE. MDO REPRESENTATIVE SOUNDED  
OUT MSDF ON QUESTION AND THEIR REPLY WAS THAT FUNDS WERE  
AVAILABLE IN CURRENT BUDGET BUT THAT REQUEST WOULD HAVE  
TO BE RECEIVED NLT JANUARY 20. ACCORDINGLY, MOVEMENT REQUEST  
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WAS SENT JANUARY 18.

4. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT THERE ARE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION  
BOTH WITHIN FONMIN AND MITI ON EXPORT QUESTION. AS REPAIRS  
ARE NOW PROCEEDING, HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE TIME IS ON OUR SIDE  
AS IT WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT FOR GOJ TO REFUSE TO PERMIT  
EXPORT HAVING ALLOWED REPAIR WORK TO PROCEED.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT EMBASSY BE AUTHORIZED TO REQUEST  
RETURN OF OTHER FORMER MAP VESSELS TO YOKOSUKA OR SASEBO AT  
GOJ CONVENIENCE, WITH AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT RETURN IN PLACE  
IF IT APPEARS TO BE IN INTEREST OF SECURING EXPORT  
CLEARANCE FOR ALL OR MOST IMPORTANT VESSELS.  
SHERMAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NAVAL FORCES, MILITARY PROCUREMENT, SHIPS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978TOKYO00831  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780035-0947, D780026-0872  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3751290  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** STATUS OF PHILIPPINE SHIPS  
**TAGS:** MASS, JA, RP  
**To:** STATE DOD  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/fef33be2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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